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## Saxon Harbor project not expected to be completed on time

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SAXON, Wis. -- The estimated \$2.3 million Saxon Harbor project is not moving along at the pace as earlier anticipated.

The project, pegged at \$2,036,887 at its onset last fall, was originally scheduled for completion by July.

But, things are not going as planned.

The estimated construction bid increased about \$300,000 because of project changes made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, according to county clerk Mike Saari.

Iron County and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed a project cooperation agreement on August 2, in which the COE committed to 75 percent of the Sec. 154 federal funding for the expansion project and the county agreed to it's 25 percent share.

"It's a headache. We'll be very fortunate if the project will be completed by winter," Iron County Board Chairman Dennis DeRosso told the county board on Tuesday.

General contractor Ross Peterson of Hurley said he could have the project wrapped up within the next two week. But, his work is about to come to a halt because the docks have not yet been ordered, DeRosso said.

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After the docks have been ordered, it'll take another 60 days for delivery.

"They haven't been ordered because the hinges are not in place yet," Saari said Wednesday.

The hinges used to hook the dock to the cement on land are not in place because they haven't come in yet, Saari said.

There was a delay in ordering the hinges because the docks originally planned on had to be changed, Saari said. The company from which the original docks were to be ordered raised their prices.

Saari said the county then switched companies, and new hinges had to be ordered.

DeRosso said he spoke with a company officials last week, and was told the hinges would be shipped within a couple of days. He said he again spoke with them on Friday. They then said the hinges would be shipped on June 26.

"We cannot pour the cement until the pin system (hinges) is hooked to the docks," Saari said. After the cement is poured, the docks will be ordered. He said the docks will arrive 60 days after they are ordered.

"Someone has dropped the ball," DeRosso said. "As soon as we get the hinges, the sidewalks can be poured," he said.

The cement work will be done by Wayne Nasi Construction of Hurley, Saari said.

Asked about a final cost figure on the project, Saari said "We will not have a final figure on the project until the project has been completed and all the bills are in and the reimbursements received."

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